

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL (EMERGENCY FUNCTION 08)**  
**SITUATION REPORT**  
**EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD) OUTBREAK**  
**DATE OF REPORT: September 26, 2014**  
**OPERATIONAL PERIOD: September 18 - 25, 2014**  
**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (CDPH)**  
**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (EMSA)**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**There are currently no confirmed or suspect cases of Ebola under investigation in California. At present, the weekly situational assessment for the risk of Ebola infection in California is very low.**

The outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in the West African nations of Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia continues to expand but does not pose a significant risk to the United States. As of September 24, the World Health Organization has reported a cumulative total of 6264 suspect, probable, and confirmed cases and 2917 deaths. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has advised travelers to avoid all non-essential travel to the West African nations of Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia. CDC continues to issue a level 2 travel notice for Nigeria. Based on the current situation in West Africa, CDC considers the risk of importation of EVD into the United States to be very low. However, the outbreak is evolving, and this assessment may change.

The CDC, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) continue to prepare for the unlikely event that a traveler returning to California from one of these countries is infected with Ebola virus. These persons may develop illnesses and require medical evaluation. CDPH and local health jurisdictions are monitoring the situation closely and taking steps to keep the public safe.

CDPH continues to work with the healthcare community and local health jurisdictions to identify potential suspect cases and avoid spread of the disease. New guidelines and updated guidelines released by CDC are posted on the CDPH CDER website available at: (<http://cdph.ca.gov/programs/cder/Pages/Ebola.aspx>). Likewise, EMSA has developed guidelines for EMS personnel based on the recommendations of CDC. The guidelines have been distributed to Local EMS Agency (LEMSA) Administrators, LEMSAs Medical Directors and the Regional Disaster Medical Health Coordination (RDMHC) Programs. Revisions will be made as necessary. The document will be posted to EMSA's website shortly.

CDPH continues to direct healthcare providers to follow protocols established by the CDC about how to detect and isolate patients who may have Ebola and how they can protect themselves from infection. The CDC advises that healthcare providers in the U.S. should consider Ebola infection in the differential diagnosis of febrile illness, with compatible symptoms, in any person with recent (within 21 days) travel history in the affected West African nations. The CDC advises people returning from the affected areas who may be at high risk for Ebola should be promptly isolated and their blood sent to CDC for testing.

On September 25, 2014, the California Department of Public Health held a Healthcare Provider Call to discuss issues related to the Ebola outbreak. The objectives of the call were:

1. To make sure that hospitals are aware of available national guidance documents.
2. To hear the practical experience of two hospitals that have either managed a suspect Ebola patient or conducted exercises to assess readiness to manage a patient.
3. To give hospitals an opportunity to ask questions about Ebola preparedness.
4. To encourage all hospitals in California to develop and test a plan for managing a suspect Ebola patient who presents to your facility.

### **DUTY OFFICERS ON CALL**

<b>Table 1. Duty Officers On Call</b>		
<b>Agency/Program</b>	<b>Duty Officer Information</b>	
CDPH Duty Officer	Name:	Bonnie Sanders-Mena
	Contact Information:	916-328-3605
EPO Duty Officer	Name:	Andrew Vellos
	Contact Information:	916-328-9025
EMSA Duty Officer	Name:	Markell Pierce
	Contact Information:	916-423-0911

### **CDPH CURRENT OPERATIONS**

The CDPH internal workgroup to address all public health aspects of the Ebola response meets weekly.

### **Center for Infectious Diseases Division of Communicable Disease Control (DCDC)**

#### **Epidemiology**

- **There are currently no confirmed or suspect cases of Ebola under investigation in California.**

## **Surveillance**

- All suspect cases must be reported to the local health jurisdiction. The local health jurisdictions will work with the DCDC clinical consultants to determine both the clinical criteria and risk factors for persons suspected of having EVD.
- DCDC held a teleconference on September 25th for hospitals to discuss Ebola preparedness. Multiple statewide healthcare provider associations were invited to listen in on the call and feedback was welcomed from hospitals and others including private hospitals and local health departments. Featured speakers from Kaiser Permanente and UCSF discussed their own preparedness plans with regard to infection control, laboratory issues, health care worker safety and other issues in the event that a patient with suspect Ebola infection presents for evaluation in the emergency room.
- The DCDC Ebola working group has developed a checklist hospitals can use as a drill to assess their preparedness for a suspect EVD patient. This hospital drill document is being finalized and will be distributed soon.

## **Laboratory**

- The Los Angeles Public Health Lab (LA PHL) has passed the validation panel and is available to test suspected clinical samples using the Ebola Zaire (EZ1) rRT-PCR (TaqMan) Assay. In addition to the LA PHL, 12 other laboratories throughout the country have been designated for testing Ebola samples. If your laboratory is contacted regarding suspect clinical samples for Ebola virus testing, please contact CDPH.

## **Infection Control**

- There are no updates at this time.

## **Medical Countermeasures**

- There are no updates at this time.

## **Community Mitigation**

- There are no updates at this time.

## **Other DCDC Actions**

- “Ebola Virus Information Page” updated as needed and available on the CDPH Communicable Disease Emergency Response (CDER) Branch website at: (<http://cdph.ca.gov/programs/cder/Pages/Ebola.aspx>).

## **Environmental Management Branch (EMB)**

No new activity to report

### **Emergency Preparedness Office (EPO)**

EPO is supporting coordination of the CDPH response to Ebola and is prepared to activate the MHCC, if required.

### **CAHAN Alerts**

- 09/25/14 – *Ebola Outbreak Health Care Provider Call*

### **Office of Public Affairs (OPA)**

No new press activity

### **EMSA CURRENT OPERATIONS**

EMSA has issued guidelines for EMS personnel based upon CDC recommendations through the RDMHC and Medical and Health Coordination (MHOAC) Programs. EMSA is prepared to coordinate with EPO if there is a need to activate the MHCC and continues to coordinate with the RDMHS and MHOAC Programs.

### **OPERATIONAL AREA CURRENT IMPACTS/ACTIONS**

Current impacts/actions for Operational Areas are not included in this situation report as local situation reports have not been requested or provided at this time.

### **MHCC PUBLIC INFORMATION**

#### **Press Releases Issued**

No press releases issued during this time period.

#### **Public Health Advisories in Effect**

None

#### **Media Contacts of Note**

None

#### **Fact Sheets**

No new fact sheets created or posted

### **MHCC RESOURCE REQUESTS**

N/A

### **MHCC FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

N/A